



**U.S. Department of Justice  
U.S. Attorney's Office  
Western District of Texas**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**ODESSA TRUCK DRIVER SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR TRANSPORTING ILLEGAL ALIENS**

**United States Attorney Johnny Sutton** announced that 36-year-old Derl Dwayne Justice of Odessa was sentenced this morning by United States District Judge Robert Junell in Midland to serve a 24-month term in federal prison as a consequence of his conviction for transporting illegal aliens. He was ordered to serve a three-year term of supervised release when he is released from custody.

In his guilty plea on August 18, Justice, a commercial truck driver, admitted that on April 13, 2007, Border Patrol agents stopped his rig on I-20 near Odessa and found seven illegal aliens from Mexico hiding in his sleeping compartment. After his arrest, Justice admitted being hired by an individual in Ciudad Juarez to transport the aliens from El Paso to a hotel in the Odessa area in exchange for \$1,800.00.

The case was investigated by agents with United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Assistant United States Attorney John Klassen prosecuted on behalf of the government.

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